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South Dakota Labor Bulletin

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Occupational distribution varies by size of employer

When we look at the types of occupations employed by South Dakota businesses (their staffing patterns) in different size groups, do any trends show up?

To answer this question, we looked at the results of the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey. The OES survey is conducted by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. A sample of the state's employers are asked how many workers they employ in different occupations. The sample is chosen to be statistically representative of the different size groups and industries of the state's employers.

We calculated the employment in occupational categories in three employer size groups: small employers (1 to 19 employees), medium employers (20 to 49 employees), and large employers (50 or more employees). The following is a look at what we found in each of the major occupational categories. In many cases, the staffing patterns are determined by the type of industries which are prevalent in the size group.

Managerial and Administrative Occupations

The proportion of managers and administrators decreases slightly as size group increases. This is because managers are not as directly involved in the actual production of goods or the provision of services as are other occupations. Generally, additional managers are not needed when a firm expands--the existing manager simply supervises more workers. Also, the larger employers sometimes hire professional and para-professional staff to relieve the manager of tasks which are not strictly "management" (e.g. a buyer to do the purchasing for the firm, a cost estimator to do bids).

Professional, Para-professional and Technical Occupations

The professional, para-professional and technical occupation category includes a full range of workers (e.g. accountants, engineers, computer

Occupational Employment by Employer Size Class

	Percent Distribution		
	Small	Medium	Large
Managers & Administrators	6.24%	5.85%	4.42%
Professional, Para-professional & Technical	9.77%	9.03%	16.93%
Sales	20.95%	15.00%	9.52%
Clerical	17.68%	15.58%	17.50%
Service	16.76%	27.11%	20.44%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	1.37%	1.50%	0.63%
Production, Operation, Maintenance & Material Moving	27.24%	25.94%	30.55%

programmers) who provide specialized services to their employer or to outside customers. In this category, the proportion of employment remains relatively constant from the small-size group to the medium-size group. The large-size group, however, has a much higher proportion of workers in this occupational category. The large-size group is dominated by service-providing employers, including education, government and health services industry employers--all of which employ a large proportion of professional, para-professional and technical staff (e.g. teachers, social workers, nurses). Also, as discussed above, the larger employers often rely on the help of staff in this occupational category to relieve management of duties which, in smaller companies, are often performed by the manager.

Sales Occupations

The proportion of sales occupations declines steadily as employer size group increases. This is because retail trade employers are small in a big way. That is, a large percentage of total employment in the small- and medium-size groups falls in retail trade establishments. Therefore, their staffing pattern strongly influences the overall pattern in those size groups. Retail establishments (e.g. clothing stores, flower shops, jewelry and accessory stores, card shops, convenience stores) employ a great number of workers in sales occupations (e.g. sales clerks, checkers). In the large-size group, the predominate industries are non-sales in nature (e.g. education, government, services, manufacturing), and thus their staffing patterns prevail.

Clerical and Administrative Support Occupations

The proportion of employment in this occupational category decreases slightly from the small- to medium-size group, and rises again in the large-size group. In the predominate industries (retail trade and services) in the small- and medium-size groups, clerical and administrative support occupations (e.g. bookkeeping clerks and general office clerks) play a supporting role rather than being directly involved in the production of goods or the provision of services. Thus, their workload is not proportionately tied to the volume of business. The business activities (e.g. credit card operations, insurance carriers) of the predominate industries in the large-size group involve additional workers in the more specialized clerical occupations (e.g. adjustment clerks, credit checkers, claims clerks).

Service Occupations

Among service occupations, proportion of employment increases as size group increases from small to medium and from small to large and is the highest in the medium-size group. The proportion of service occupations is higher in the large-size group than in the small-size group because of the predominance in the large-size group of the education, retail trade, services and government industries. Those industries employ a high proportion of service occupations (e.g. school cooks, food servers, nursing aides and orderlies, police) because the provision of service is the name of their game. The reason for the high proportion of service workers in the medium-size is the predominance of restaurants in this size group. Service occupations (e.g. waiters, waitresses, bartenders and cooks) make up a large portion of employment in restaurants.

Production, Construction, Operating, Maintenance and Material Handling Occupations

In this occupational category, we see a pattern which is a mirror image of the one we talked about above for service occupations. The overall pattern is growth in proportion of employment as size class increases, but a valley appears in the middle-size category. The highest proportion is found in the large-size group because of the influence of the manufacturing industry in that size group. A very high percentage of manufacturing employment (78 percent) is concentrated in this occupational category. The reason for the valley in the middle-size group is that firms in the predominate industries in that group (trade and services) have a higher number of sales and service workers without a proportional increase in production workers.

Highlights of South Dakota 's labor market in August

Labor Force Data

The seasonally adjusted South Dakota labor force in August 1992 was 361,000, with 350,500 employed and 10,500 unemployed. Unemployment in the state edged down one-tenth of a percentage point to 2.9 percent in August.

Nonfarm Employment Changes

This information is not seasonally adjusted.

The August nonfarm wage and salaried employment level jumped to 308,400, with a gain of 1,900 jobs (or 0.6 percent). These employment levels were boosted by increased hiring in trade and services which traditionally occurs during this time of year.

The services industry led all industry groups in the addition of jobs from July to August. Tourism and recreation activities, such as fairs and the start-up of bowling, boosted the employment level in the division of hotels/motels and amusements. Medical and health services also noted employment gains over the month. This growth can be somewhat attributed to the expansion of several hospitals and a new helicopter service getting off the ground.

The wholesale trade industry added an additional 600 jobs over the month. This increase was caused mostly by the hiring of additional corn detasslers.

Most of the job growth in the retail trade industry was in the division of eating and drinking establishments. This division gained an additional 600 jobs over the month as firms hired additional personnel to accommodate fair goers, back-to-school shoppers, and motorcycle enthusiasts attending the Sturgis motorcycle rally.

The manufacturing industry experienced a slight employment decline as one manufacturing firm had a temporary layoff of workers, during the reference week. The idled workers were recalled at the end of the month.

Sad to say, but summer seems to be over as colleges and universities reopen for a new year. Faculty members and student laborers have headed back to work at the state's schools. In fact, work study students and new faculty members accounted for the majority of the 800 job increase in state government education from July to August.

Local government noted employment decreases from July to August of 3.1 percent. The majority of the job decrease in local government occurred in education. This was due largely to the ending of work for summer custodians, summer school teachers and other personnel employed by local schools during the summer.

Compared to a year ago . . .

South Dakota's total nonfarm employment rose 7,200 from year-ago employment levels. Expansion continued at 2.4 percent, the highest over-the-year job growth since March 1992. All of South Dakota's major industry groups showed job growth with the exception of mining, which remained the same.

The manufacturing industry led all industry groups with the addition of 1,700 jobs over-the-year. This industry has outpaced the nation in job growth for the last six years.

The medical and health services division dominated the services industry in job growth over the year. One reason for the increase is the hiring of additional specialist and sub-specialist doctors into the regional medical center areas. Additional growth is occurring in the areas of family practice, obstetrics, gynecology and pediatrics. Hospitals are expanding their walls to make room for more outpatient services, which is becoming the trend in the medical field.

Government had a job growth rate of 2.4 percent over the year. The division of local education had the biggest impact on this employment increase. School districts are finding that they need to hire more personnel and build new and expand existing schools to accommodate increased enrollments and eliminate crowded classrooms.

Labor Force

	August 1992[1]				August 1991			
	Seasonally Adjusted							
	Labor Force[2]	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force[2]	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
United States	**127,437,000**	**117,737,000**	**9,700,000**	**7.6**	**125,004,000**	**116,484,000**	**8,520,000**	**6.8**
South Dakota	**361,000**	**350,500**	**10,500**	**2.9**	**358,600**	**345,500**	**13,100**	**3.6**
	Not Seasonally Adjusted							
Sioux Falls MSA	76,521	74,993	1,528	2.0	76,053	74,102	1,951	2.6
Rapid City MSA	41,823	40,679	1,144	2.7	42,306	40,734	1,572	3.7
Aurora	1,452	1,436	16	1.1	1,423	1,412	11	.8
Beadle	8,311	8,133	178	2.1	8,450	8,184	266	3.1
Bennett	1,365	1,296	69	5.1	1,429	1,349	80	5.6
Bon Homme	3,449	3,378	71	2.1	3,498	3,433	65	1.9
Brookings	14,713	14,155	558	3.8	15,218	14,495	723	4.8
Brown	18,975	18,324	651	3.4	19,502	18,604	898	4.6
Brule	2,685	2,623	62	2.3	2,606	2,536	70	2.7
Buffalo	459	400	59	12.9	417	364	53	12.7
Butte	3,180	3,103	77	2.4	3,508	3,384	124	3.5
Campbell	1,074	1,061	13	1.2	1,041	1,011	30	2.9
Charles Mix	4,398	4,217	181	4.1	3,929	3,803	126	3.2
Clark	1,878	1,742	136	7.2	1,816	1,759	57	3.1
Clay	6,471	6,289	182	2.8	6,800	6,454	346	5.1
Codington	12,500	12,198	302	2.4	12,399	11,937	462	3.7
Corson	1,465	1,185	280	19.1	1,474	1,166	308	20.9
Custer	5,329	5,283	46	.9	4,828	4,782	46	1.0
Davison	8,987	8,835	152	1.7	9,139	8,924	215	2.4
Day	3,187	3,100	87	2.7	3,180	3,087	93	2.9
Deuel	2,356	2,243	113	4.8	2,175	2,135	40	1.8
Dewey	1,983	1,645	338	17.0	2,043	1,647	396	19.4
Douglas	1,582	1,552	30	1.9	1,606	1,577	29	1.8
Edmunds	1,900	1,857	43	2.3	1,973	1,933	40	2.0
Fall River	3,271	3,154	117	3.6	3,225	3,111	114	3.5
Faulk	1,070	1,057	13	1.2	1,152	1,112	40	3.5
Grant	3,974	3,866	108	2.7	4,157	4,047	110	2.6
Gregory	2,385	2,334	51	2.1	2,371	2,316	55	2.3
Haakon	1,086	1,069	17	1.6	1,083	1,054	29	2.7
Hamlin	2,558	2,503	55	2.2	2,397	2,313	84	3.5
Hand	1,798	1,765	33	1.8	1,874	1,819	55	2.9
Hanson	1,309	1,274	35	2.7	1,343	1,314	29	2.2
Harding	727	708	19	2.6	753	713	40	5.3
Hughes	8,601	8,462	139	1.6	8,317	8,079	238	2.9

Labor Force

	August 1992[1]				August 1991			
	Labor Force[2]	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force[2]	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Hutchinson	4,328	4,217	111	2.6	4,127	4,095	32	.8
Hyde	798	776	22	2.8	816	793	23	2.8
Jackson	1,856	1,820	36	1.9	1,823	1,754	69	3.8
Jerauld	1,063	1,050	13	1.2	1,084	1,059	25	2.3
Jones	695	688	7	1.0	701	690	11	1.6
Kingsbury	2,634	2,575	59	2.2	2,694	2,652	42	1.6
Lake	4,854	4,657	197	4.1	5,047	4,805	242	4.8
Lawrence	14,046	13,576	470	3.3	14,368	13,839	529	3.7
Lincoln	7,231	7,031	200	2.8	7,320	7,139	181	2.5
Lyman	1,491	1,416	75	5.0	1,577	1,474	103	6.5
McCook	2,827	2,743	84	3.0	2,844	2,766	78	2.7
McPherson	1,476	1,464	12	.8	1,476	1,451	25	1.7
Marshall	2,259	2,194	65	2.9	2,269	2,220	49	2.2
Meade	10,559	10,290	269	2.5	10,730	10,365	365	3.4
Mellette	800	758	42	5.3	779	752	27	3.5
Miner	1,388	1,355	33	2.4	1,400	1,383	17	1.2
Minnehaha	76,521	74,993	1,528	2.0	76,053	74,102	1,951	2.6
Moody	3,250	3,007	243	7.5	3,424	3,135	289	8.4
Pennington	41,823	40,679	1,144	2.7	42,306	40,734	1,572	3.7
Perkins	2,185	2,155	30	1.4	2,189	2,134	55	2.5
Potter	1,373	1,335	38	2.8	1,380	1,350	30	2.2
Roberts	4,265	4,139	126	3.0	4,450	4,204	246	5.5
Sanborn	1,029	1,000	29	2.8	1,052	1,033	19	1.8
Shannon	2,280	1,848	432	18.9	2,050	1,555	495	24.1
Spink	3,172	3,116	56	1.8	3,390	3,289	101	3.0
Stanley	1,486	1,461	25	1.7	1,353	1,326	27	2.0
Sully	745	733	12	1.6	821	783	38	4.6
Todd	2,435	2,259	176	7.2	2,455	2,244	211	8.6
Tripp	3,246	3,188	58	1.8	3,234	3,152	82	2.5
Turner	5,036	4,968	68	1.4	4,014	3,963	51	1.3
Union	9,281	9,105	176	1.9	6,443	6,276	167	2.6
Walworth	2,739	2,688	51	1.9	2,910	2,803	107	3.7
Yankton	10,938	10,727	211	1.9	10,558	10,284	274	2.6
Ziebach	1,327	1,265	62	4.7	1,208	1,107	101	8.4
SOUTH DAKOTA	365,900	355,500	10,400	2.8	363,500	350,600	12,900	3.6

[1] Preliminary data subject to revision.
[2] Labor force estimates include employed and unemployed civilians 16 years old and older by place of residence.
Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

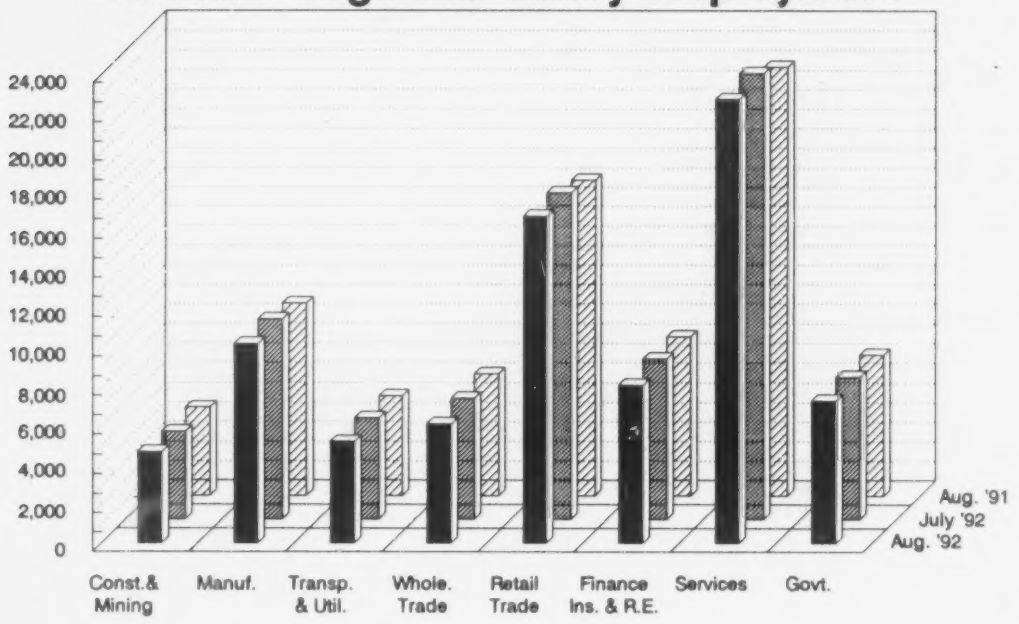
South Dakota Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment

	Aug. 1992	July 1992	Aug. 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
TOTAL	**308,400**	**306,500**	**301,200**	**.6**	**2.4**
GOODS PRODUCING	54,800	54,700	52,500	.2	4.4
Mining	2,800	2,800	2,800	.0	.0
Construction	14,400	14,200	13,800	1.4	4.3
Manufacturing	37,600	37,700	35,900	-.3	4.7
Durable Goods	22,500	22,600	20,800	-.4	8.2
Nondurable Goods	15,100	15,100	15,100	.0	.0
Food & Kindred Products	7,700	7,800	7,900	-1.3	-2.5
Printing & Publishing	3,300	3,300	3,300	.0	.0
SERVICE PRODUCING	253,600	251,800	248,700	.7	2.0
Transportation & Public Utilities	13,800	13,700	13,700	.7	.7
Transportation	8,400	8,300	8,300	1.2	1.2
Communication	3,000	2,900	3,000	3.4	.0
Electric/Gas/Sanitary Services	2,400	2,400	2,400	.0	.0
Wholesale Trade	20,500	19,900	19,300	3.0	6.2
Durable Goods	9,000	9,000	8,900	.0	1.1
Nondurable Goods	11,500	10,900	10,400	5.5	10.6
Retail Trade	63,200	62,700	62,400	.8	1.3
Eating and Drinking Establishments	23,400	22,800	23,500	2.6	-.4
General Merchandise/Apparel	11,200	11,100	11,300	.9	-.9
Food Stores	9,100	9,200	9,000	-1.1	1.1
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	16,800	16,900	16,800	-.6	.0
Finance	10,800	10,800	10,800	.0	.0
Depository Institutions	6,000	6,000	5,800	.0	3.4
Nondepository Institutions	4,100	4,100	4,400	.0	-6.8
Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers	3,900	3,900	3,900	.0	.0
Services	79,700	78,600	78,300	1.4	1.8
Hotels/Motels & Amusements	14,100	13,400	14,000	5.2	.7
Personal and Business	8,500	8,200	8,900	3.7	-4.5
Medical and Health Services	29,500	29,200	28,800	1.0	2.4
Hospitals	13,800	13,700	13,300	.7	3.8
Health Services, other than Hospitals[1]	15,700	15,500	15,500	1.3	1.3
Educational Services	4,400	4,500	4,200	-2.2	4.8
Social Services	5,800	5,800	5,600	.0	3.6
Membership Organizations	9,200	9,400	9,200	-2.1	.0
Government	59,600	60,000	58,200	-.7	2.4
Federal	11,400	11,400	11,400	.0	.0
State	16,900	16,300	16,500	3.7	2.4
State Education	6,300	5,500	6,000	14.5	5.0
Local	31,300	32,300	30,300	-3.1	3.3
Local Education	14,700	15,400	13,600	-4.5	8.1

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

[1]Not developed in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Sioux Falls MSA
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

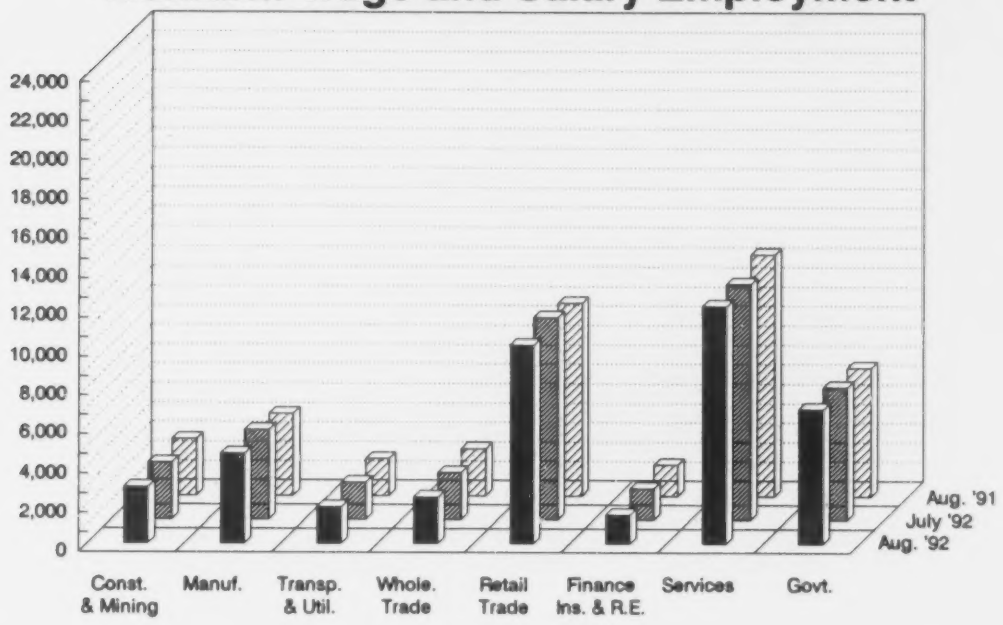


	Aug. 1992	July 1992	Aug. 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
TOTAL	**81,000**	**81,100**	**78,900**	**-.1**	**2.7**
GOODS PRODUCING	14,900	14,700	14,300	1.4	4.2
*Construction & Mining	4,700	4,500	4,500	4.4	4.4
Manufacturing	10,200	10,200	9,800	.0	4.1
SERVICE PRODUCING	66,100	66,400	64,600	-.5	2.3
Transportation & Public Utilities	5,200	5,200	5,100	.0	2.0
Wholesale Trade	6,100	6,200	6,200	-1.6	-1.6
Retail Trade	16,700	16,700	16,100	.0	3.7
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	8,100	8,200	8,100	-1.2	.0
Services	22,700	22,800	21,900	-.4	3.7
Government	7,300	7,300	7,200	.0	1.4

*Mining employment less than 100.

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Rapid City MSA
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment



	Aug. 1992	July 1992	Aug. 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
TOTAL	**42,600**	**42,700**	**41,900**	**-.2**	**1.7**
GOODS PRODUCING	7,500	7,500	7,100	.0	5.6
*Construction & Mining	2,900	2,900	2,900	.0	.0
Manufacturing	4,600	4,600	4,200	.0	9.5
SERVICE PRODUCING	35,100	35,200	34,800	-.3	.9
Transportation & Public Utilities	1,900	1,900	1,900	.0	.0
Wholesale Trade	2,400	2,400	2,400	.0	.0
Retail Trade	10,200	10,400	9,900	-1.9	3.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1,500	1,600	1,600	-6.3	-6.3
Services	12,200	12,100	12,400	.8	-1.6
Government	6,900	6,800	6,600	1.5	4.5

*Mining employment less than 300.

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Hours and Earnings of Production Workers

	Number of Production Workers			Average Weekly Hours		
	Aug. 1992	July 1992	Aug. 1991	Aug. 1992	July 1992	Aug. 1991
South Dakota						
Total Private	207,700	206,600	203,300	34.1	33.7	33.9
Mining	2,300	2,400	2,400	45.3	44.6	45.6
Construction	12,000	11,800	11,300	43.5	42.7	42.2
Manufacturing	27,300	27,400	26,500	40.4	41.2	41.3
Transportation & Public Utilities	11,500	11,500	11,400	38.0	37.0	39.1
Wholesale & Retail Trade	74,000	72,900	71,500	31.0	30.4	31.4
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	12,800	12,800	12,600	37.4	36.0	34.8
Services	67,800	67,800	67,600	31.5	31.1	30.7
Sioux Falls MSA						
Manufacturing	7,300	7,200	6,900	38.8	38.9	41.0
Rapid City MSA						
Manufacturing	3,400	3,400	3,200	41.1	41.4	41.1

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Aug. 1992	July 1992	Aug. 1991	Aug. 1992	July 1992	Aug. 1991
South Dakota						
Total Private	$282.01	$275.67	$274.93	$8.27	$8.18	$8.11
Mining	593.43	566.42	580.03	13.10	12.70	12.72
Construction	439.35	419.31	424.11	10.10	9.82	10.05
Manufacturing	360.77	360.91	362.61	8.93	8.76	8.78
Transportation & Public Utilities	447.26	439.19	443.39	11.77	11.87	11.34
Wholesale & Retail Trade	217.62	211.58	211.64	7.02	6.96	6.74
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	339.59	326.16	304.85	9.08	9.06	8.76
Services	242.55	236.05	236.70	7.70	7.59	7.71
Sioux Falls MSA						
Manufacturing	$371.32	$363.72	$370.23	$9.57	$9.35	$9.03
Rapid City MSA						
Manufacturing	$372.78	$374.67	$384.70	$9.07	$9.05	$9.36

Source: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed[1]

	Aug. 1992	July 1992	Aug. 1991
Total	2,286	2,149	1,798
Male	975	981	781
Female	1,311	1,168	1,017
White	1,835	1,763	1,403
Nonwhite	451	386	395
Under 45	1,553	1,433	1,242
Over 45	733	716	556
By Industry[2]			
Mining	5	12	12
Construction	153	137	115
Manufacturing	455	364	300
Transportation & Public Utilities	68	74	71
Trade	598	623	458
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	60	57	48
Services	904	832	646
Government	43	50	148
By Occupation[2]			
Professional & Managerial	588	557	452
Clerical and Sales	514	496	443
Services	373	396	331
Processing	96	57	41
Machine Trade	81	80	78
Benchwork	187	134	122
Structural Work	250	241	177
Other	197	188	154
By Duration of Current Unemployment			
1-2 Weeks	418	487	245
3-4 Weeks	306	296	213
5-14 Weeks	1,110	911	979
15 Weeks & Over	452	455	361

[1] The insured unemployed are those people who had worked for employers covered by South Dakota's Unemployment Insurance laws and who filed claims for unemployment insurance compensation during the week including the 12th of the month.

[2] Refers to industry and occupation involvement prior to unemployment.

Selected Labor Department Activities

	Aug. 1992	July 1992	Aug. 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
Unemployment Insurance					
A. Initial Claims	1,124	1,804	1,017	-37.7	10.5
B. Weeks Compensated	8,877	10,521	7,698	-15.6	15.3
C. Amount of Benefit Payments	$777,313	$935,255	$819,035	-16.9	-5.1
D. Unemployment Trust Fund Balance	$49,385,473	$48,332,950	$48,623,322	2.2	1.6
Job Service					
E. Applicants Available (new and renewal)	7,452	11,267	9,219	-33.9	-19.2
F. Nonfarm Placements	4,151	5,393	5,895	-23.0	-29.6
G. Nonfarm Job Openings	8,813	7,327	11,250	20.3	-21.7

Job training conferece to be held in Huron October 6-8

South Dakota's job training professionals will meet October 6-8 for the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) annual conference. The conference will be held in Huron at the Crossroads Hotel and Convention Center.

"The conference offers an excellent opportunity for employment trainers, educators and other service providers to discuss the job training needs of South Dakota's citizens. The training we provide today influences the quality of tomorrow's work force, said Peter de Hueck, secretary of the South Dakota Department of Labor.

The Department of Labor administers the federally-funded JTPA program in South Dakota. For the year ending June 30, nearly 5,000 South Dakota were enrolled in various JTPA job training programs.

Luis Sepulveda, Department of Labor regional administrator, will discuss recent changes in the job training program. The Act, which has been in effect since 1983, was recently amended by Congress.

Also on the agenda is Jodie Kelly, a JTPA training specialist who will present effective techniques for working with clients. Dr. Ivan Fitzwater, a consultant, will address the issues of goal-setting and perseverance in accessing human potential.

Workshops are scheduled on a variety of topics, including total quality management, working with youth, welfare clients and non-traditional jobs for women. Workshops are open to the public.

The fifth annual JTPA awards will be presented at a banquet October 7. The awards honor individuals and programs for outstanding contributions to the state's job training and employment system.

Technical Notes and Definitions

Pages 6, 7 and 8 - Nonfarm wage and salary employment estimates include almost all nonfarm wage earners (full and part-time) but exclude the self-employed. They are derived from a monthly sample survey of South Dakota non-agricultural establishments and include workers on the payroll for the week including the 12th of the month. These tables compare the current month's employment totals of the major industry groups to the totals of the previous month and year.

Page 9 - Average hours and earnings data are derived from reports of payrolls and hours for production and related workers in manufacturing, construction workers in construction, and non-supervisory employees in private service-producing industries. The data cover full and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month. The earnings figures are "gross" figures. They may be higher than employer wage rates, since they reflect premium pay for shift differentials and overtime work. The hours figures relate to the hours for which pay was received; this is different from scheduled or standard work hours.

Page 10 - The data in the table at the bottom of page 10 are taken from the records of the state unemployment insurance program and the state Job Service system. The terms are defined as follows:

A. Initial Claims - the total number of first claims for unemployment compensation.

B. Weeks Compensated - the total number of weeks for which claimants received compensation.

C. Amount of Benefit Payments - the total amount of money paid to claimants.

D. Unemployment Trust Fund Balance - the fund to which all required Unemployment Insurance taxes are paid and from which all benefits to claimants are paid.

E. Applicants Available (new and renewals) - the total number of different individuals who registered or renewed their registrations for work at Job Service offices in the state.

F. Nonag Placements - a count of the number of times during the month that Job Service applicants were hired by nonfarm employers.

G. Nonag Job Openings - a count of new job openings received during the month by South Dakota Job Service offices from nonfarm employers.

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South Dakota **Labor Bulletin**

Selected National Economic Indicators

	Aug. 1992	July 1992	Aug. 1991	% Change From Last Month	% Change From Last Year
Consumer Price Index[1]	140.9	140.5	136.6	0.3	3.1
Industrial Production Index[2]	108.6	109.2	108.0	-0.5	0.6
Retail Trade Sales[3]	$159,728	$160,582	$153,853	-0.5	3.8
Privately Owned Housing Starts[4]	1,237	1,120	1,053	10.4	17.5
Bank Prime Loan Rate[5]	6.00	6.02	8.50	-0.3	-29.4

[1]U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. 1982-84 = 100.

[2]Federal Reserve Board. Includes manufacturing, mining and utilities. 1987 = 100. Seasonally adjusted.

[3]Bureau of the Census. Adjusted for seasonal, holiday and trading day differences. In millions of dollars.

[4]Bureau of the Census. Includes new, privately owned housing units started. Seasonally adjusted annual rates. In thousands of units.

[5]Federal Reserve Board. Annual rates.